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News from

THE UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON
PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

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DAYTON, Ohio, December 17, 1970 --- When you're 32 years old, are blonde and beautiful, have a successful dentist for a husband, and two lovely children, as does Mrs. Robert (Ann) Hamer, you should have the world by the tail.

Ann Hamer has all those things going for her but two years ago she wanted more. She wanted more intellectually and she wanted to avoid a total withdrawal into the world of the "bridge-playing housewife." So Ann Hamer, who has a bachelor's degree in medical tech from Ohio State, went back to school.

Saturday she will have completed another step in her education when she is one of 514 men and women graduating from the University of Dayton. Mrs. Hamer will receive her master of science degree in biology at the winter diploma exercises of the University's 121st Commencement in the UD Arena at 1:30 p.m.

Among those 514 men and women will be nine honor graduates including a Daytonian, Thomas Michael Halley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil T. Halley, 6956 Rose Hill Drive, who is the lone summa cum laude graduate with a 3.900 cumulative academic average. He will receive a bachelor of science degree in psychology.

Magna cum laude graduates are John McKelvy Lentz, Murrys ville, Pennsylvania, bachelor of science in business administration, 3.86; William Charles Kinzig, II, bachelor of mechanical engineering, 3.76; and Norma Lucille Dafler, New Lebanon, Ohio, bachelor of arts in psychology, 3.70.

Cum laude graduates are Cathy Patrice Gephart, Dayton, bachelor of science in education, 3.61; William J. Struhar, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, bachelor of arts in philosophy, 3.57; Mary Lee Lauber, Dayton, bachelor of science in education, 3.55; Mary Irene Westendorf, Dayton, bachelor of science in education, 3.54; and Robert J. Bednarek, Dayton, bachelor of arts in psychology, 3.53.

Mrs. Hamer, whose hometown is Columbus, will not "retire" again to the role of housewife. She will step, next semester, into the University's new doctoral program. She will continue with her latest "love"--snakes.

Working under the guidance of Dr. James MacMahon, a nationally-known ecologist who is a professor at UD, Mrs. Hamer, among other things, studied the hemoglobin characteristics of the sidewinder and wrote her master's thesis on "The Adaptive Characteristics of the Hemoglobin of the Sidewinder."

In her doctoral work she will join Dr. MacMahon on an international project which deals with the environment. Dr. MacMahon, who has been studying the desert environment, heads the productivity analysis section of the desert biome in the International Biological Program (IBP). Basically Dr. MacMahon and his group, which includes men from 27 universities and 17 countries, wants to find out how to make the desert areas of the world more productive. Mrs. Hamer will study the desert animals and see why they can exist in the desert and other animals cannot.

This is her approach to one longtime ambition--ecology. She wanted to be involved in that phase of our existence long before it became fashionable. She'll start in January.